(e) if so, the details of setps taken to overcome the problem?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b) The physical and financial performance of the Company, execution of major projects and other critical issues are reviewed through Performance Review Meetings held at regular intervals and even through special meetings wherever required.

Ministry Monitoring Cell set up by the Ministry monitors the performance of the major projects in terms of parameters such as physical and financial progress, achievement of milestones etc. Action is initiated on the areas of concern.

(c) The following strategy has been formulated to boost the performance of ONGC:—

(i) ONGC has been conferred the 'Navratna' status as a result of which they would enjoy greater autonomy in decision making,

(ii) Organisational restructuring being implemented with the assistance of an internationally reputed nagement consultant,

(iii) Intensification of exploration efforts in the existing basin/sectors and expansion of its exploration efforts in deep water and frontier areas,

(iv) Maximise recovery from established oil/gas fields.

(v) Increasing thrust on global operations involving acquisition of explorationacreages and discovered fields /producing properties abroad.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir, As on 31.3.1997 an mount of Rs. 2178/-crore was outstanding from the oil companies. To overcome the crunch, ONGC has resorted to short-term commercial borrowings from the Indian banking system and from other financial institutions. The problem of oil pool deficit is already receiving Government attention.

Laying of Under Ground Pipeline for Supply of LPG

400. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether M.C.D. has denied permission for laying pipelines under road for the pilot project of Gas Authority of India (GAIL) in order to supply cooking gas directly to households through pipeline;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) by when G.A.I.L. and M.C.D. are likely to settle the matter and start laying the pipelines under the roads and the areas identifed by the G.A.I.L. in the first instance for providing this facility; and

(d) the other areas, which are likely to be covered in the near future in a phased manner?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.*

(c) The MCD and N.D.M.C. have given permission for laying pipelines for the pilot project covering about 1200 consumers in Kaka Nagar, Bapa Nagar and Pandara Park in Delhi subject to depositing of department charges and bank guarantee. Laying of pipelines has already been completed.

(d) It is proposed to implement the Delhi City Gas Distribution Project covering other areas through a Joint Venture Comapny with equity participation from GAIL and BPCL.

Demand of Domestic Crude Oil

401. SHRI RAMCHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total domestic crude oil demand for" 1996-97;

(b) what is the expected production of crude oil during the period in question;

(c) whether any shortfall is expected; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The total demand tor crude oil in the country is based on the refining capacity which was 69.5 MMT in 1996-97.

(b) and (c) The production of Crude Oil during the period was approximately 32.88 MMT against the MOU target of 36.312 MMT.

(d) The reasons for shortfall in production are:—

—Reduction in anticipated production from the major fields of Mumbai Regional Business Centre especially Bombay High and Neelam, due to unexpected reservoir behaviour not in conformity with earlier predictions.

—Reduced production from joint ventrue projects.

—Constraints in operating conditions on account of law and order problems and insurgency in North-Eastern region.

—Stoppage of work in Nagaland.

—Frequent power shutdown in Western and Eastern region affecting artificial life operations.

Capacity of Indian Refineries

402. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total refining capacity of Indian refineries as on 30th June, 1997;

(b) how much the domestic needs of petroleum products are being met by these refineries; and

(c) whether refining capacities are being fully utilised?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The refining capacity as on* 30.6.1997 was 61.55 MMTPA.

(b) The production of • petroleum products vis-a-vis its domestic needs for the year 1996-97 is given below:—

(Figures in MMT)

Production	*Demand*	*Short Fall*
59.24	79.16	19.92

(c) The overall refining capacity utilisation of the refineries for the year 1996-97 was 104%.

Waiting List for LPG connections in the Metropolitan Cities

403. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants waiting for LPG connection in all the Metropolitan cities as on 30th June, 1997;

(b) whether the waiting list in the towns and cities is not being cleared as it was targeted during the last three years;

(c) if so, the State wise position as on date; and

(d) the year by which every consumer would get LPG connection on demand?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The number of applicants on waiting list registered with the LPG distributors of PSU oil Companies in the four Metropolitan cities is as under:—

Metro City	*Pending WaitingList as on 30.6.97 (in Lakh)*
"Delhi	7^26
Calcutta	5.43
Mumbai	3.54
Chennai	_4/74

b) No target was set for clearing the wait list in towns and cities during the period under reference. However, all PSU oil companies achieved the target fixed for release of connections for the